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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/756,579	01/08/2001	John L. Reid	INTL-0463-US (P9817)	5624
7590	08/30/2004		EXAMINER	
Timothy N. Trop TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C. STE 100 8554 KATY FWY HOUSTON, TX 77024-1805			BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	2126
DATE MAILED: 08/30/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/756,579	REID, JOHN L.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.	2126	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 08 January 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 7 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention by lacking antecedent basis for the limitation "the class" in line 1. Claims 7 and 15 detail invoking a sharable interface of the class to obtain a handle. It cannot be ascertain as to which class Applicant is referring to. The class is either the class that was enabled to be shared by the applications, i.e. the shared class, or the defined class of claim 6.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 12-15, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by CZAJKOWSKI (US 6,567,974).

As to claim 1, CZAJKOWSKI teaches a method comprising: running at least two applications (applications); and enabling the applications to share a class (application

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class / system class); and duplicating the member data for the class (see fig. 3-5; col. 10, line 8 – col. 11, line 55; column 12, lines 30-45).

As to claim 4, CZAJKOWSKI teaches duplicating process specific data (static field / static field class) for each application (applications) (col. 12, lines 20-45).

As to claim 5, CZAJKOWSKI teaches automatically (during run-time) duplicating process specific data (static field / static field class) in the address space specific to each application (separate copy of the field for each application) (col. 12, lines 12-45; col. 13, lines 1-6; col. 18, lines 9-12).

As to claim 6, CZAJKOWSKI teaches defining a share class (access methods class / modified original class) and using the share class to execute an instance of a class to share (col. 12, line 20 – col. 13, line 15).

As to claim 7, CZAJKOWSKI teaches invoking a sharable interface of the class (operable functionality of the access methods class) to obtain a handle (identity) (via access methods class being operable to extract the application identity from the current thread through the modified original class) (col. 13, lines 1-15).

As to claims 9 and 12-15, reference is made to an article that corresponds to the method of claims 1 and 4-7 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1 and 4-7 above.

As to claims 17 and 20, reference is made to a system that corresponds to the method of claims 1 and 4 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1 and 4 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CZAJKOWSKI (US 6,567,974).

As to claim 2, CZAJKOWSKI teaches enabling each application on a computer system to use memory (col. 6, lines 56 – col. 8, line 8) in sharing a class (abstract). CZAJKOWSKI also teaches that the memory is representative of various types of possible memory media (col. 7, lines 2-11). However, CZAJKOWSKI does not mention that the memory is shared memory.

Official Notice is taken in that shared memory is well known in the art and would be obvious in view of CZAJKOWSKI to share a class in shared memory.

As to claim 3, CZAJKOWSKI teaches defining an address space (via separate copies of the static field) specific to each application (col. 12, lines 20-45).

As to claims 8, CZAJKOWSKI teaches specifying the handle (identity) to resolve the context (via the access methods class being operable to extract the application identity from the current thread through the modified original class to invoke the correct copy of the static field class) (col. 13, lines 1-15). However, CZAJKOWSKI does not teach that the handle is specified in a method call.

Official Notice is taken in that it is well known in the art that objects and classes communicate with one another through method calls. Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the teachings of CZAJKOWSKI with the well known teaching of object oriented communication through method calls in order to retrieve the identity (handle) from a thread object through a method call in order for the objects (thread object / access methods class / modified original class) to communicate with one another.

As to claims 10, 11 and 16, reference is made to an article that corresponds to the method of claims 2, 3 and 8 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 2, 3 and 8 above.

As to claims 18 and 19, reference is made to a system that corresponds to the method of claims 2 and 3 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 2 and 3 above.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 6/21/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's sole argument in relation to the prior art is that the teachings do not call for duplicating member data for each application that shares the class. The examiner disagrees. Czajkowski teaches in figure 5, that a plurality of applications have individual copies of the fields of a shared class. Column 11, lines 14-31 teaches that one copy of a class exist in the system and each application has a separate copy of the fields of the class giving the applications the illusion that it has exclusive access to the static fields. Column 12, lines 30-45 teaches a class has static fields wherein a separate copy of the one or more static fields is created for each of the plurality of applications wherein each of the separate copies corresponds to one of the plurality of applications. Therefore, the reference does teach the limitation as disclosed.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

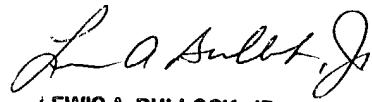
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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. In mid-October 2004, the examiner can be reached at (571) 272-3759 when an attempt at the above number is unsuccessful.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. In mid-October 2004, the examiner's supervisor can be reached at (571) 272-3756 when an attempt at the above number is unsuccessful.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

August 25, 2004